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Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

March 23, 2015
10:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

**SENATE BILL NO. 521 SD 1
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO
WAIMEA NUI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chairperson Yamane and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on Senate Bill 521 SD 1. This bill authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds up to \$45,000,000 to the Waimea Nui Community Development Corporation for the planning, acquisition, and construction of agriculture, renewable energy, and educational facilities. The Department strongly supports this measure.

The Department is working closely with the Waimea Nui Community Development Corporation on the agricultural component of their plan to revitalize the Waimea community. They have already found success in the creation of a Farmers for the Working Class program that has helped numerous community members, under the tutelage of an experienced farmer, transition into becoming farmers themselves. To further support this initiative, the legislature appropriated \$3.5 million for the design and construction of a Waimea Agricultural Park that will provide plots for farmers and community members to transition into agricultural production. The Department looks forward to continuing to work collaboratively with the Waimea Nui Community Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.



cullen2-Sheila Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2015 10:59 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: micah@hfbf.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB521 on Mar 23, 2015 10:30AM*

SB521

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 23, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Manfredi	Hawaii Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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cullen2-Sheila Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 6:47 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kamakane73@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB521 on Mar 23, 2015 10:30AM

SB521

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 23, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the House Committee on Water and Land. My name is Kama Hopkins and I write in SUPPORT of SB 521. This Bill will assist in bringing the Waimea Nui project to life and will create agricultural and economically sustainable opportunities for the community members of Waimea, Hi. and many who call Hawaii Island their home. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 6:44 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: robertl@oha.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB521 on Mar 23, 2015 10:30AM

SB521

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 23, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: TESTIMONY OF TRUSTEE ROBERT K. LINDSEY, JR. IN SUPPORT OF SB 521 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO WAIMEA NUI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Committee on Water and Land: My name is Bob Lindsey, Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Trustee for Hawaii Island. Today, I wish to share my testimony in SUPPORT of SB 521 as an individual member of the OHA Board of Trustees. In my time of service to OHA's beneficiaries for the past 7 ½ years, I have always enjoyed and supported our beneficiaries who have "carried the ball" in their own communities and have strived to better the conditions of those whom they serve. In this particular case, the Waimea Nui Development Corporation has been reviving ideas left dormant from decades before. These ideas and very practical dreams of the Waimea community are slowly coming to life due to their efforts and the effort of those beneficiaries of that community and beyond. The realization of Waimea Nui, its ongoing projects and future projects are a result of public and private partnerships. These projects are successful and the future of Waimea Nui is bright. The issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds for this project will assist that community to create more agricultural and economically sustainable initiatives for itself and to move forward. This Waimea community is traditionally a paniolo and mahi`ai town, a town of cowboys and farmers. They are looking for a hand up not a hand out. I urge you to pass SB 521. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via my Honolulu office at 808-594-1882. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

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TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

SENATE BILL NO. 521, S.D. 1

March 23, 2015
10:30 A.M.

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO
WAIMEA NUI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Senate Bill No. 521, S.D. 1, authorizes the issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds (SPRB) up to \$45,000,000 to assist Waimea Nui Community Development Corporation, a private not-for-profit corporation, for the planning, acquisition, and construction of agriculture, renewable energy, and educational facilities.

The Department is providing comments only to advise the Legislature and prospective SPRB parties that should the legislation be approved, approval of SPRB issuance will require further discussion and satisfactory credit underwriting review of the financing components with respect to any proposed financing.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.